Madras Port

937. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to develop Madras Port in accordance with international norms in berth occupancy;

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken to develop the satellite port at Ennore in Madras;

(c) the steps taken to convert Ennore satellite port into a multi-commodity port to serve the petro-chemical projects coming in Manali in Madras; and

(d) what are the details of investment made in Ennore satellite port?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT(SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) There are no international norms of berth occupancy. The level of berth occupancy at Madras Port has varied between 79.1 to 86.2 percent during 1987-88 and 1989-90.

Keeping in view the availability of resources, schemes for creation of new berths, modernisation of the existing berths and replacement of cargo handling equipments have been drawn up to increase the port capacity and productivity so as to reduce pre-berthing delays of ships.

(b) Feasibility Report to develop the satellite port at Ennore has been prepared. The proposal to develop the satellite port at Ennore has been taken up for investment decision.

(c) The satellite port at Ennore is proposed to handle thermal coal initially. There is no proposal at present to convert Ennore Satellite Port into a multi-commodity port.

(d) No investment has been made in the Ennore satellite port.

The position of Delhi Transport Corporation

938. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Transport Corporation are not in a position to cope up with the crowds due to the increase of population in Delhi;

(b) whether any alternative measures are being considered to meet the demand for improving the Delhi's public transport; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On account of financial constraints, DTC is in a position only to replace the overaged buses. During 1990-91, DTC has been given sanction for the purchase of 506 buses on replacement account. Of these, 209 buses have already been procured and for balance 297 buses, action to procure is underway and the same are likely to be added to the fleet by end June, 1991. In addition, Government propose to accord sanction for acquistion of another 394 buses on replacement account this year.

The Delhi Administration have also decided to introduce 100 buses on a point to point basis to augment public transport system.

Bus queue shelters of DTC in Delhi

939. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a great difficulty, is faced by the passengers in Delhi during summer and rainy seasons due to non availability of shelters on DTC bus stands;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated number of bus shelters likely to be constructed during the next two years;